This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-17 (cancelled)

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18. (new) A surge arrestor, comprising:

a middle electrode;

at least one outer electrode;

an electrically conductive spring clip that is secured to the middle electrode and exerts a spring power on the at least one outer electrode,

an electrical component part that is non-conductive at a trigger voltage of the surge arrestor, configured to generate heat given a flow of current, the electrical component part being arranged between the spring clip and the at least one outer electrode,

a spacer element to which the spring clip is secured with a fusible mass, the spring clip being spaced away from the outer electrode, the spacer element having a tapering at a section lying between the outer electrode and the spring clip, the elements being so arranged that when the fusible mass becomes molten, the spring clip is pressed against the at least one outer electrode.

- 19. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, in which the spring clip comprises a hole, the spacer element being attached to the spring clip inside the hole.
- 20. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, further comprising:

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT B

an enlarged free space between the spacer element and the spring clip provided by the tapering upon release of the spring clip.

- 21. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the electricalcomponent part is arranged between the at least one outer electrode and the spacer element.
 - 22. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the fusible mass is made of solder.
 - 23. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, further comprising a shrink hose that covers an outside surface of the electrical component.
- 24. (new) A surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the at least one outerelectrode comprises a ring at its edge that is composed of an iron-nickel alloy.
 - 25. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the spring clip is composed of a spring steel.
- 20 26. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the component is a varistor or a semiconductor component.
 - 27. (new) The surge arrestor according to claim 18, wherein the spring clip comprises an inwardly bent section at its end.

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